

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 HA-05 IO-13 EUR-12 ACDA-12 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11 EB-08 OMB-01 TRSE-00

AID-05 /120 W

-----022363 182144Z /46

P R 181215Z MAY 78

FM AMEMBASSY BANGUI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 189

INFO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGUI 1097

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: MOPS, CG, CT

SUBJ: CONSULTATIONS ON SHABA INVASION WITH GOCAE

REF: STATE 125192

1. I DISCUSSED MAY 18 WITH ACTING FOREIGN MINISTER ZOKOE AND MFA SECRETARY GENERAL KIBANDA CURRENT SITUATION IN SHABA. USING TALKING POINTS REFTEL, I ALSO STRESSED OUR SUPPORT FOR ZAIRIAN TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY, OUR CONCERN ABOUT POSSIBILITY OF UNWANTED OUTSIDE INTERVENTION AND OUR REVIEW OF WAYS IN WHICH WE MIGHT BE RESPONSIVE TO PRESIDENT MOBUTU'S CONCERNS. I SAID I WOULD BE PLEASED TO PROVIDE THE GOCAE WITH REGULAR BRIEFINGS ON THE SITUATION. WE WOULD BE INTERESTED IN ITS ANALYSIS OF THE PROBLEM.

2. THE FOREIGN MINISTER THANKED ME FOR THE BRIEFING AND SAID THEY WOULD WELCOME AS GREAT AN EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION AS POSSIBLS. THE SITUATION IN ZAIRE WAS A PREOCCUPYING ONE FOR THE GOCAE. ITS POLICY WAS TO PROMOTE PEACE AND TO THWART INTERFERENCE BY OUTSIDE POWERS. HE THOUGHT AFRICA'S WESTERN FRIENDS SHOULD DO WHAT THEY COULD TO HELP GUARANTEE PEACE. PEACE, HE SAID, WAS THE ESSENTIAL PRECONDITION FOR ECONOMIC
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DEVELOPMENT TO WHICH THE UNITED STATES AND OTHERS WERE CONTRIBUTING.

3. COMMENT: THE CAE IS OBVIOUSLY WORRIED BY THIS RECENT TURN IN EVENTS. TWO OF ITS CLOSEST NEIGHBORS ARE NOW INVOLVED IN MAJOR EXTERNALLY-SUPPORTED INSURGENCIES. THERE IS NO QUESTION THAT THE CAE WILL SUPPORT WHATEVER STEPS WE ARE ABLE TO TAKE TO HELP

ZAIRE. I HOPE WE WILL CONTINUE TO RECEIVE UP TO DATE INFORMATION
ON THE SITUATION SO THAT WE CAN KEEP THE GOCAE FULLY INFORMED
OF DEVELOPMENTS.
QUAINTON

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